

ABSTRACT

A printing compound suitable for recording unique surface characteristics of an object such as a person's finger, palm or foot, tire tread or shoe sole, on a porous medium such as paper, is composed of (1) a composition, e.g., printer's ink, capable of delineating such surface characteristics when transferred to the porous medium by itself or in conjunction with a separate reagent and (2) a sufficient amount of water dispersable nonionic surfactant to render the composition substantially soluble in water without adversely affecting the ability of the composition to delineate the surface characteristics when transferred to the porous medium.